



You are here: [Home](#) / [The Work That Reconnects](#) / Joanna Macy, Root Teacher

# Joanna Macy, Root Teacher



Photo Credit: Adam Loften

Joanna Macy PhD, is a scholar of Buddhism, general systems theory, and deep ecology. A respected voice in the movements for peace, justice, and ecology, she interweaves her scholarship with five decades of activism. The author of more than twelve books, she is the root teacher of the Work That Reconnects.

Her wide-ranging work addresses psychological and spiritual issues of the nuclear age, the cultivation of ecological awareness, and the fruitful resonance between Buddhist thought and contemporary science. The many dimensions of this work are explored in her books *Despair and Personal Power in the Nuclear Age* (New Society Publishers, 1983); *Dharma and Development* (Kumarian Press, 1985); *Thinking Like a Mountain* (with John Seed, Pat Fleming, and Arne Naess; New Society Publishers, 1988; New Society/ New Catalyst, 2007); *Mutual Causality in Buddhism and General Systems Theory* (SUNY Press, 1991); *Rilke's Book of Hours* (1996, 2005) and *In Praise of Mortality* (2004, 2017) (with Anita Barrows, Riverhead); Joanna's memoir entitled *Widening Circles* (New Society, 2000); *World as Lover, World as Self* (Parallax Press, 2007), *A Year With Rilke*, (with Anita Barrows, Harper One, 2009); and *Pass It On: Five Stories That Can Change the World* (with Norbert Gahbler, Parallax Press, 2010),

Share:



SIGN UP NOW

Become a Friend of the Work That Reconnects and keep in touch with the programs and activities of the Work That Reconnects Network. You will receive our newsletters, notification of new issues of Deep Times Journal, and other updates. [Past Newsletters](#)



**The Work**  
Learn about The Work  
[READ MORE](#)



**Events**  
Find WTR Events  
[READ MORE](#)



**Network**  
Connect with other WTR users and facilitators.  
[READ MORE](#)



**Facilitators**  
Find experienced facilitators of the Work That Reconnects in

*Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're in without Going Crazy* (with Chris Johnstone, 2011); *Coming Back to Life: The Updated Guide to the Work That Reconnects* (with Molly Young Brown, New Society Publishers, 2014).

Many thousands of people around the world have participated in Joanna's workshops and trainings. Her group methods have been adopted and adapted yet more widely in classrooms, churches, and grassroots organizing. Her work helps people transform despair and apathy, in the face of overwhelming social and ecological crises, into constructive, collaborative action. It brings a new way of seeing the world, as our larger living body, freeing us from the assumptions and attitudes that now threaten the continuity of life on Earth.

For many years, Joanna traveled widely giving lectures, workshops, and trainings in the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Australasia. She currently lives in semi-retirement in Berkeley, California, near her children and grandchildren. Learn more here: [www.joannamacy.net](http://www.joannamacy.net).

your region.

[READ MORE](#)



## Projects

Find out about WTR projects.

[READ MORE](#)

### RECENT POSTS

[Featured Facilitator: Jolie Elan](#)  
Jun 29, 2020

[Call For Submissions: Deep Times "Youth" Issue](#) Jun 19, 2020  
[Confronting White Privilege and Colonialism with the Work That Reconnects](#) Jun 18, 2020

### RECENT COMMENTS

[Gunter Hamburger](#) on [Standing in Solidarity](#)

[Martin Reinholtz](#) on [A Guided Self-Practice of The Work That Reconnects](#)

[John Roach](#) on [We are Stronger and More Resilient Together](#)

[Moshe Givental](#) on [The Sword in the Stone](#)

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE WTR NEWSLETTER

Receive notification when new issues of the Deep Times Journal are available as well as updates on the Work That Reconnects Network.